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BS ISO 2919:2012



BSI Standards Publication

Radiological protection — Sealed radioactive sources — General requirements and classification

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 2919 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 85, *Nuclear energy, nuclear technologies, and radiological protection*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Radiological protection*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 2919:1999), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

Safety is the prime consideration when establishing standards about the use of sealed radioactive sources. Sealed-source users have established an enviable record of safe usage as a result of careful scrutiny of the conditions of application of the sealed radioactive source by the regulating authority, the supplier and the user. However, as the application of sealed radioactive sources becomes more diversified and as regulating agencies become more numerous, an International Standard is needed to specify the characteristics of a sealed radioactive source and the essential performance and safety testing methods for a particular application and, thus, maintain the record of safe usage.

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Radiological protection — Sealed radioactive sources — General requirements and classification

1 Scope

This International Standard establishes a classification system for sealed radioactive sources that is based on test performance and specifies general requirements, performance tests, production tests, marking and certification. It provides a set of tests by which manufacturers of sealed radioactive sources can evaluate the safety of their products in use and users of such sources can select types which are suitable for the required application, especially where protection against the release of radioactive material, with consequent exposure to ionizing radiation, is concerned. This International Standard can also serve as guidance to regulating authorities.

The tests fall into several groups, including, for example, exposure to abnormally high and low temperatures and a variety of mechanical tests. Each test can be applied in several degrees of severity. The criterion of pass or fail depends on leakage of the contents of the sealed radioactive source.

NOTE Leakage test methods are given in ISO 9978.

Although this International Standard classifies sealed sources by a variety of tests, it does not imply that a sealed source will maintain its integrity if used continuously at the rated classification. For example, a sealed source tested for 1 h at 600 °C might, or might not, maintain its integrity if used continuously at 600 °C.

A list of the main typical applications of sealed radioactive sources, with a suggested test schedule for each application, is given in Table 3. The tests constitute minimum requirements corresponding to the applications in the broadest sense. Factors to be considered for applications in especially severe conditions are listed in 4.2.

This International Standard makes no attempt to classify the design of sources, their method of construction or their calibration in terms of the radiation emitted. Radioactive materials inside a nuclear reactor, including sealed sources and fuel elements, are not covered by this International Standard.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 361, *Basic ionizing radiation symbol*

ISO 9978:1992, *Radiation protection — Sealed radioactive sources — Leakage test methods*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

capsule

protective envelope used to prevent leakage of radioactive material

3.2

device

any piece of equipment designated to utilize one or several sealed sources